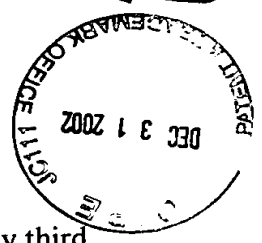


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE



An information receiving/display apparatus, which can receive and display third sensory information such as tactual information or olfactory information in addition to visual and/or audio information. A number of image display optical fibers and tactual representation fibers both having cores made of a liquid are arranged in alignment, and a number of image display control signal lines and tactual representation control signal lines [both] made of piezoelectric elements are aligned across the fibers, thereby to form the information receiving/display apparatus.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An information receiving/display apparatus, which can receive and display third sensory information such as tactual information or olfactory information in addition to visual [information] and/or audio information[, receives information recognizable by at least one of remotely discernible senses (visual sense, auditory sense, olfactory sense) and information recognizable by at least one of proximately discernible senses (tactual sense, gustatory sense), and displays them on an information display plane]. A number of image display optical fibers and tactual representation fibers both having cores made of a liquid are arranged in alignment, and a number of image display control signal lines and tactual representation control signal lines [both] made of piezoelectric [element] elements are aligned across the fibers, thereby to form the information receiving/display apparatus. [in a portion of an optical fiber selected by a control signal line in response to an image signal, ultrasonic waves are generated by the piezoelectric element, and bubbles are generated in the core by cavitation brought about by the ultrasonic waves. These bubbles scatter laser beams introduced into the core from one end of the optical fiber, and are led out externally to display an image. Further, ultrasonic waves are generated by a piezoelectric element in a portion of the fiber selected by a control signal line, and pressure of gas generated by cavitation brought about by the ultrasonic waves creates a projection on the surface of the fiber.]